

FRIDAY, JULY 19th, 1816.

Yesterday, arrived the *Providence*, Captain Green, from Portsmouth the 23d of March.

English Extracts.

LONDON, MARCH 19.

With heartfelt joy we offer our congratulations to the country on a victory as important as any that was ever obtained over the military Despot of Europe—victory over the fiscal despotism of the Income Tax. The great question was decided about half-past one this morning, when the Minister was left in an *unexpected* minority of THIRTY-SEVEN. Up to the very moment of the vote, there is every reason to believe that he expected to be successful, in the face of the numerous petitions that had been presented from every part of the island. He had pleaded his cause on all the points so often before canvassed. He had denied that a pledge was given. He had asserted that the tax was justified by necessity. He had deprecated the idea of loans however small, and insinuated that the practical minded men who recommended them were biased by views of interest. He had even repeated his ingenious and favourite idea of the guinea per man throughout the kingdom. But all fell flat and pointless on the house. The cause was radically bad; and a worthy Baronet, in an early part of the evening, had with reason warned the minister, that "if the good people of that house did their duty, he could not succeed." They have done their duty. They have felt with the feeling of the country; and have taught Ministers that the right of petition is not a useless weapon in the hands of the people. The result of the vote was received both within and without the house with shouts of applause, and we are sure that the feelings of delight will spread with rapidity from the metropolis to the most distant corners of the Isle. We are delivered, we and our posterity, from a fiscal inquisition. Never more will a British Minister dare to propose the subjecting his countrymen in time of peace to so odious and galling an oppression. This was indeed the first time, in the history of the world, that such a measure had ever been proposed, save under the pressure of a formidable war; and it has been defeated—thanks to the unanimity of *all parties* in opposing it—thanks to the ready exercise of the right of petition—and we may add, with some degree of honest pride, thanks to an independent press! We hardly know whether it is now worth while to advert to the delusive modifications by which it was hoped to lull one class of society into a thoughtless security, while the others were rendered victims to the tax. The good sense of the country saw through this flimsy veil. It saw that nothing could ameliorate the principle of the tax—the tyrannical, the inquisitorial, and by necessary consequence the immoral principle. It was on this ground that we uniformly stood, and by this feeling the House seemed to be actuated in the debate; for the modifications proposed by the Minister scarcely seemed to be thought worthy of discussion. In fact they only tended to aggravate the evil. Of that which was before unequal they increased the inequality: and where inquisition was vexatious, they opened a new door for inquisitorial oppression. But they are gone—they and the parent-monster, the giant plague, to the tomb of all the Capulets: and we may now hope for the adoption of a just and liberal financial system on principles of a totally opposite nature—principles congenial with our free constitution, and suited to the happy state of peace which has rewarded our persevering endurance of the burthens of war.

For the continuation of the tax 201
Against it 238

Majority 37

The declaration of members was received with long and reiterated shouts of congratulation, which pierced all the avenues of the house, and were audible at a great distance. Strangers were excluded for some time by this expression of the tumultuous feelings of the majority. When the general cheering had subsided, and the gallery was reopened, we found Mr. BENNETT moving for the production of several papers relative to the commissariat department.

The nuptials of the Princess CHARLOTTE with Prince LEOPOLD will be solemnized in Easter week. Camelford House is, we understand, to be their place of residence.

The Princess CHARLOTTE when out on one of her aquatic excursions at Weymouth, wished to go on board the *Leviathan*, and regardless of the rough sea, and the remonstrances of the Bishop of SALISBURY, proceeded in the Captain's barge; when alongside, a chair was let down for her accommodation, but the Princess refused to use it, saying, "I prefer going up in the manner that a seaman does; you, Captain NIXON, will kindly follow me, taking care of my clothes; and when I am on deck, the chair may be let down for the other ladies and the Bishop." No sooner said than done; her Royal Highness ascended with a facility that astonished the whole delighted crew of the *Leviathan*. The spirit of insubordination so long prevailing at the India College, Hertfordbury, it is said, will immediately undergo some sort of enquiry in Parliament—the Mathematical Professor has resigned, and the Governor finds it difficult to retain his situation.—*County Chronicle*. [The Times, March 19th 1816]

